

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A still for distilling a potable alcoholic liquid, the still comprising:

a chamber with a copper wall for holding a liquid, the chamber having a volume V and the copper wall defining, by mutual contact with the liquid filling the volume V , a first interface of the wall and the liquid, having an area S_1 , wherein S_1/V is a maximum of 27 square centimeters per liter; and

at least one additional copper surface contact element positioned in the chamber for at least partial immersion in the liquid in the chamber, and defining a second interface with the liquid filling the volume V and having an area S_2 , wherein $((S_1+S_2)/V)$ is at least 30 square centimeters per liter.

2. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 1 wherein $((S_1+S_2)/V)$ does not exceed 45 square centimeters per liter.

3. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 1, comprising a plurality of the additional copper surface contact elements including respective copper plates arranged vertically in the chamber.

4. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 3, wherein the copper plates are arranged radially with respect to an axis of symmetry of the chamber, and including supporting components to which the copper plates are attached in a rigid structure.

5. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 4, wherein the supporting components include a copper mounting supported by a bottom of the chamber.

6. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 4, wherein the supporting components include two copper rings separated from each other, parallel to one another, centered on the axis of symmetry of the chamber and attached to each of the copper plates.

Claims 7-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 2, comprising a plurality of the additional copper surface contact elements including respective copper plates in the chamber.

11. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 10, wherein the copper plates are arranged radially with respect to an axis of symmetry of the chamber, and including supporting components to which the copper plates are attached in a rigid structure.

12. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 11, wherein the supporting components include a copper mounting supported by a bottom of the chamber.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The still according to Claim 11, wherein the supporting components include two copper rings separated from each other, parallel to one another, centered on the axis of symmetry of the chamber and attached to each of the copper plates.

15. (Currently Amended) The still according to Claim ~~5~~ 4, wherein the supporting components include two copper rings separated from each other, parallel to one another, centered on the axis of symmetry of the chamber and attached to each of the copper plates.